

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 080077

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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, SA, US

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEAM TRAVEL (THE FIRST SIX PARAGRAPHS OF THIS MESSAGE HAVE BEEN SIMULTANEOUSLY TELEXED TO DR. OBEID VIA DR. SOLIMAN IN RIYADH).

1. AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE JOINT COMMISSION IT WAS AGREED THAT A USG TEAM WOULD BE SENT TO SAUDI ARABIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ADVISE ON THE OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SAUDI NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.
2. USG PROPOSES AN APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEK VISIT BY A SIX-MAN TEAM: (A) DR. ALLEN F. SHINN, JR., TEAM LEADER, PROGRAM MANAGER, RESEARCH APPLICATIONS DIRECTORATE, NSF. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY: TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY ISSUES. (B) DR. EDWARD H. BRYAN, PROGRAM MANAGER, RESEARCH APPLICATION DIRECTORATE, NSF. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY: ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING. (C) DR. PAUL G. SHEWMON, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MATERIALS RESEARCH, NSF. (D) DR. RICHARD R. RIES, REGIONAL MANAGER OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN SECTION, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, NSF. (E) ROBERT W. CAIN, HEAD, MANPOWER STUDIES SECTION, DIVISION OF SCIENCE RESEARCH STUDIES, NSF. (F) THEODORE A. ROSEN, UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 080077

OFFICE OF SAUDI ARABIAN AFFAIRS, U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP

PROGRAM OFFICER.

3. SURVEY TEAM PURPOSE WILL BE TO GATHER INFORMATION ON CURRENT SCIENTIFIC BASE IN SAUDI ARABIA. DESIRED INFORMATION INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: (A) SCIENTIFIC MANPOWER RESOURCES. TEAM WOULD LIKE TO MEET AS MANY MEMBERS OF SAUDI SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE. (B) RESEARCH FACILITIES, LABORATORIES AND RELATED INSTALLATIONS. TEAM WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AS MANY OF THESE FACILITIES AS POSSIBLE. (C) INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH CAPABILITIES. TEAM WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH CAPABILITIES AND PLANS WITH APPROPRIATE SAUDI OFFICIALS. TEAM WOULD LIKE TO VISIT SITES OF IMPORTANT RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS. (D) EIGHTEEN IDENTIFIED PROGRAM AREAS. TEAM WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SAUDI OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THE PLANNING OF EIGHTEEN PROGRAM AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE WORKING GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. IT WOULD ALSO BE DESIRABLE TO VISIT SITES WHICH MIGHT BE SIGNIFICANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE PROGRAMS.

4. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE SURVEY TEAM WILL ARRIVE IN SAUDI ARABIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HOPEFULLY APRIL 25, FOR A VISIT OF APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS. TEAM PLANS ONE DAY ORIENTATION IN BEIRUT WITH EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHE AND POSSIBLY AT AUB EN ROUTE TO JIDDA. TEAM WILL WORK DIRECTLY AND CLOSELY WITH DR. RIDA OBEID, DEAN, FACULTY OF SCIENCES, RIYADH UNIVERSITY. THE TEAM MEMBERS WILL INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY TRAVEL WITHIN SAUDI ARABIA TO SITES AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES AND DR. OBEID.

5. THE COST ESTIMATE OF THIS PROPOSED SURVEY IS AS FOLLOWS: (A) TRAVEL: INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC FARES AND PER DIEM COSTS FOR FIVE NSF TEAM MEMBERS: DOLS 13,000; (B) SALARIES: FIVE NSF EMPLOYEES FOR FOUR MAN WEEKS EACH (APPROXIMATELY ONE OF FOUR WEEKS WILL BE DEVOTED TO WRITING THE REPORT IN WASHINGTON): DOLS 13,700; TOTAL: DOLS 26,700; (C) FUNDING FOR ROSEN WILL BE PAID BY THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 080077

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

6. REQUESTED ACTIONS IF ABOVE MEETS SAG APPROVAL: (A) GIVE CHECK FOR DOLS 26,700 DIRECTLY TO DEPUTY LEWIS BOWDEN DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. CHECK SHOULD BE EARMARKED FOR SAUDI ARABIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT TRUST ACCOUNT NO. 20X6423. (B) PROVIDE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TEAM ARRIVAL DATE AND TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOR

TWO WEEKS IN COUNTRY TRAVEL AND AND VISITS. (C) PROVIDE NAMES OF PERSONS TEAM SHOULD MEET WITH IN US WHO WOULD BE USEFUL IN GIVING TEAM BACKGROUD ORIENTATION.

7. IF SAG CONCURS WITH ABOVE, TEAM WOULD APPRECIATE JIDDA HOTEL RESERVATION FOR SIX FOR NIGHT OF FRIDAY APRIL 25 AND ORIENTATION AT EMBASSY ON FOLLOWING DAY IF POSSIBLE. TEAM WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S RESERVING SIX SEATS SV 818 ON SATURDAY APRIL 26 AND RIYADH HOTEL FOR SIX FROM APRIL 26 THROUGH MAY 2.

8. TEAM EXPECTS THAT SOME IN COUNTRY TRAVEL ON SAUDI AIRLINES WILL BE NECESSARY. WILL SAUDI ACCEPT USG GTR TRAVEL VOUCHERS OR SHOULD ALL DOMESTIC FLIGHTS (I.E. DHAHRAN) BE TICKETED IN ADVANCE?

9. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY OR SAUDIS MAY HAVE ABOUT TIMING,SIZE, DURATION OF TEAM AND SUBSTANCE THEY TO COVER. KISSINGER

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